

**Amendments to the Drawings**

The attached sheet of drawings includes *changes* to Figures *1; 2; 3, 4; and 5*. These sheets, which includes Figures 1; 2; 3, 4; and 5, 6 replaces the original sheets including Figures 1; 2; 3, 4; and 5, 6.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets  
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes to Figures 1; 2; 3, 4; and 5 *only*

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Office Action dated January 24, 2006. All claims stand rejected. In light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of all pending claims.

Originally filed claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the PCI Express to PCI/PCI-X Bridge Specification. Applicants have amended claim 15 to recite an integrated circuit comprising first and second subcircuits formed on a substrate. These limitations and others added by amendment are not taught or fairly suggested in the PCI Express to PCI/PCI-X Bridge Specification, either alone or in combination with the remaining limitations of independent claim 15. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 15 is patentably distinguishable over the PCI Express to PCI/PCI-X Bridge Specification cited in the Office Action.

Originally filed claims 1-15 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the Background Section of the instant application in view of Hsieh, U.S. Publication No. 2005/0258243 A1. The Office Action asserts that the Background Section of the instant application is admitted prior art. For the purposes of this response only, Applicants will presume that the Background Section is admitted prior art.

Accompanying this Response is a 37 C.F.R. 1.131 Declaration signed by the inventors. This Declaration establishes conception of invention prior to February 12, 2004, the effective date of Hsieh. Moreover, the Declaration establishes due diligence by the inventors from February 5, 2004, to February 17, 2004, the filing date of the instant application. Presuming acceptance of the attached 1.131 Declaration, Hsieh should not be considered prior art to the pending claims.

The Office Action notes typographical errors in the Specification and claims 4 and 9. Applicants are thankful to the Examiner for his time reviewing the Specification and claims. The errors noted by the Examiner in his Office Action have been corrected.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450, on April 24, 2006.

  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

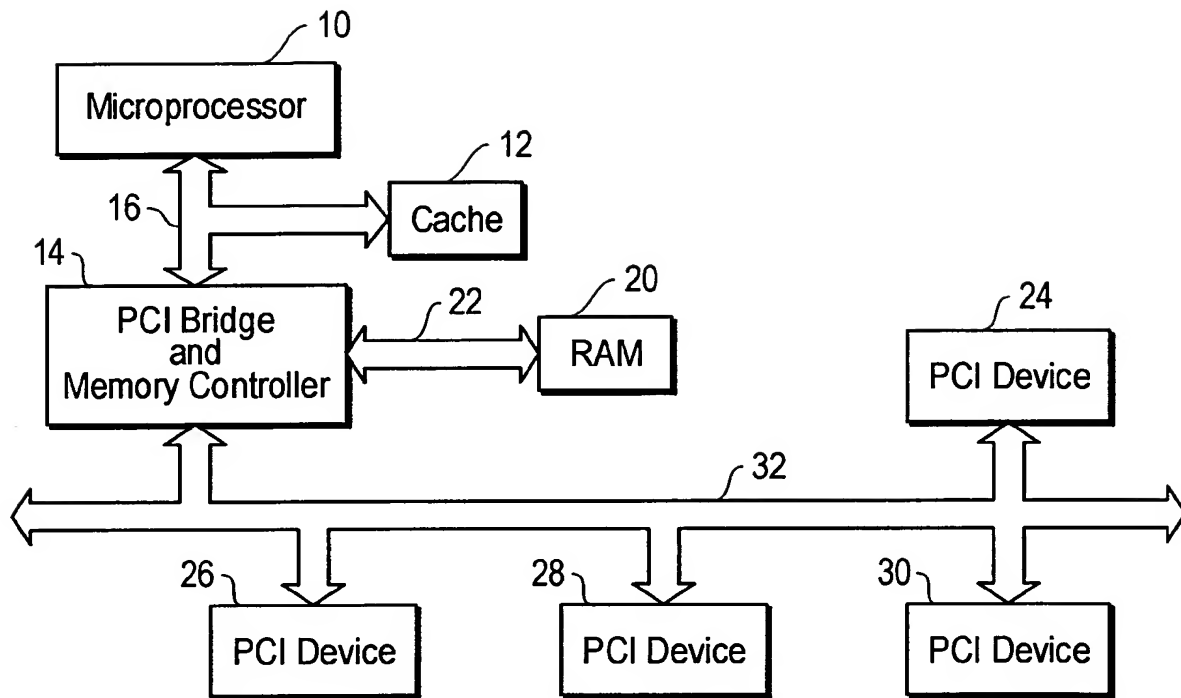
4/24/06  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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*FIG. 1*  
(Prior Art)

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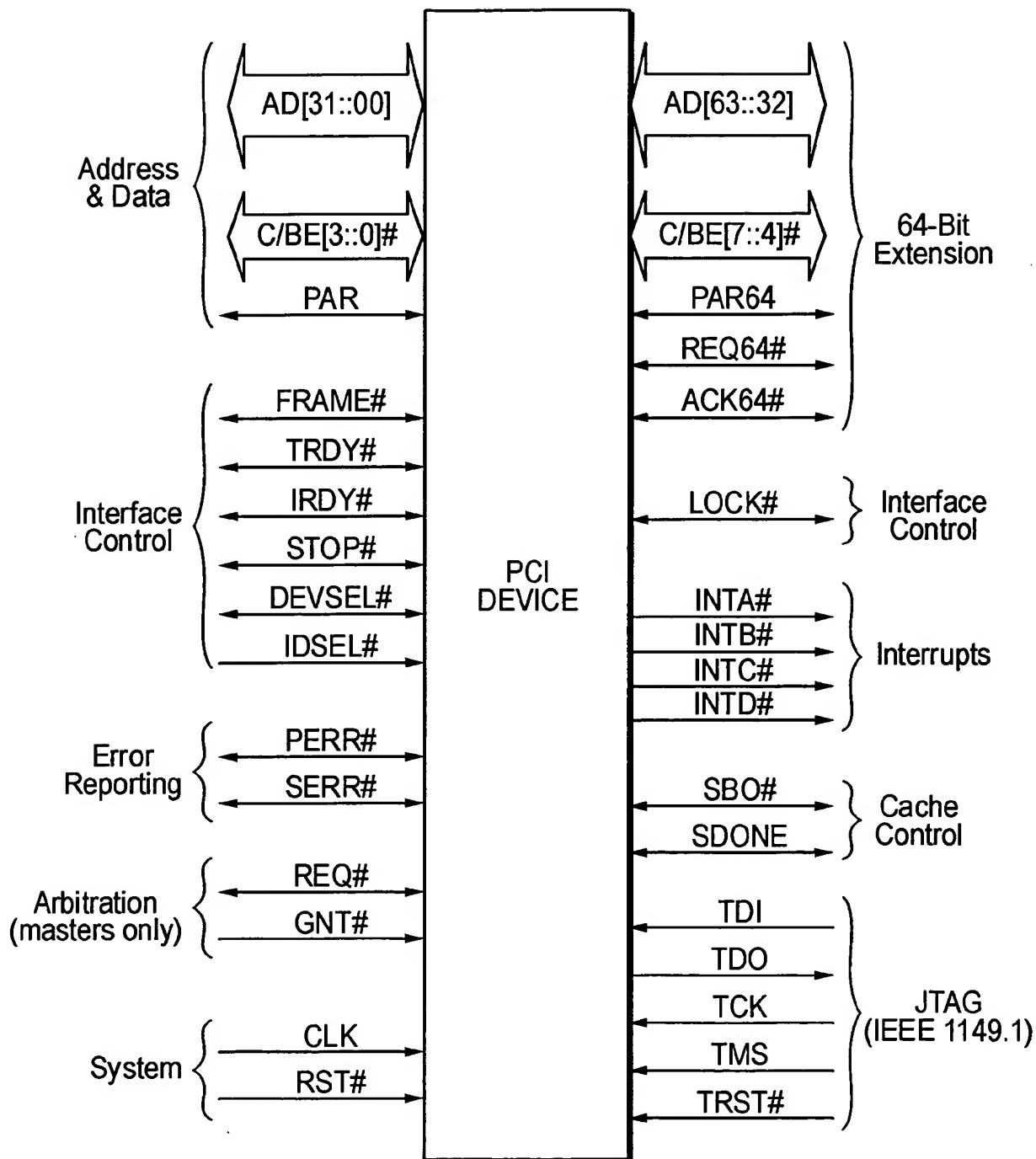


FIG. 2  
(Prior Art)

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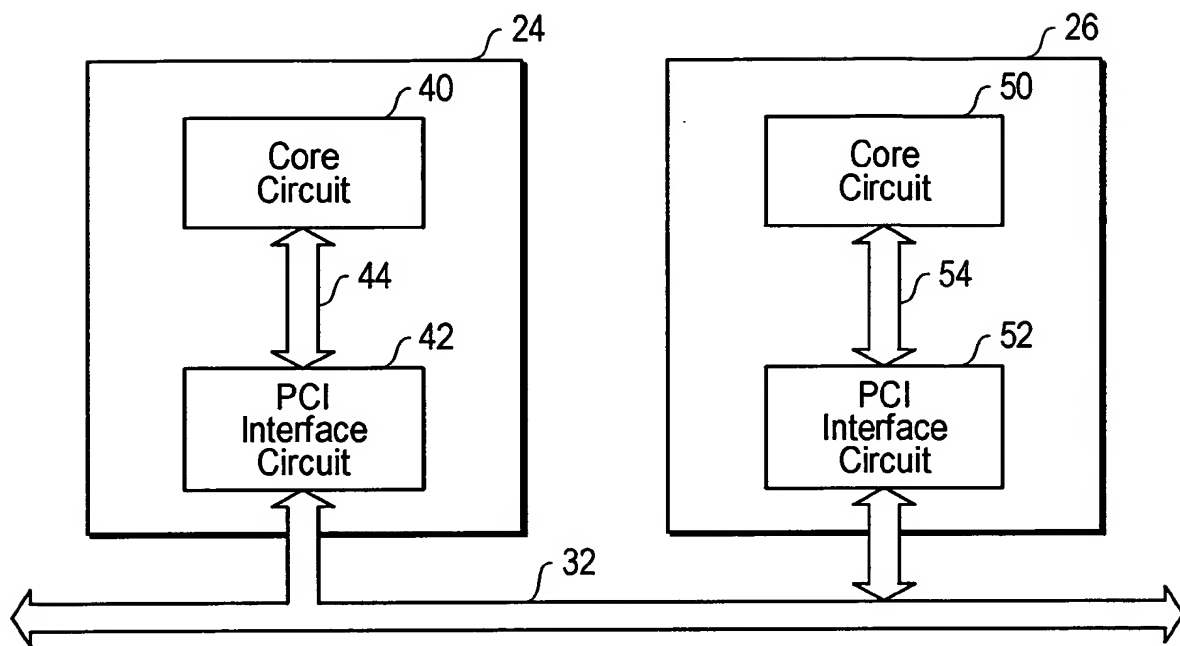


FIG. 3  
(Prior Art)

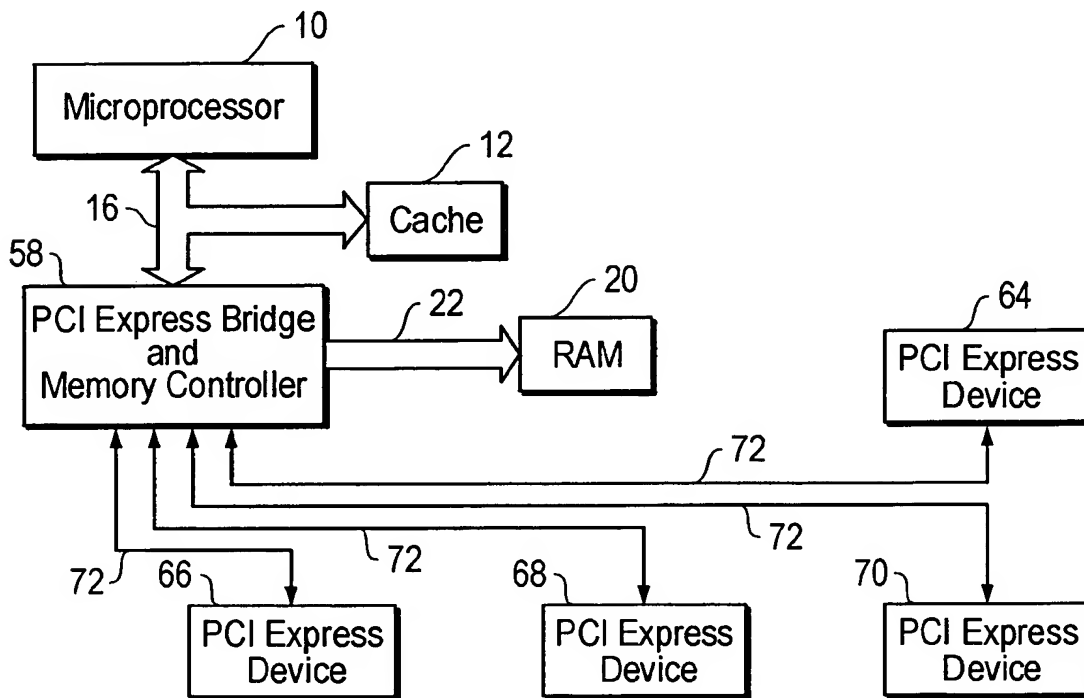


FIG. 4  
(Prior Art)

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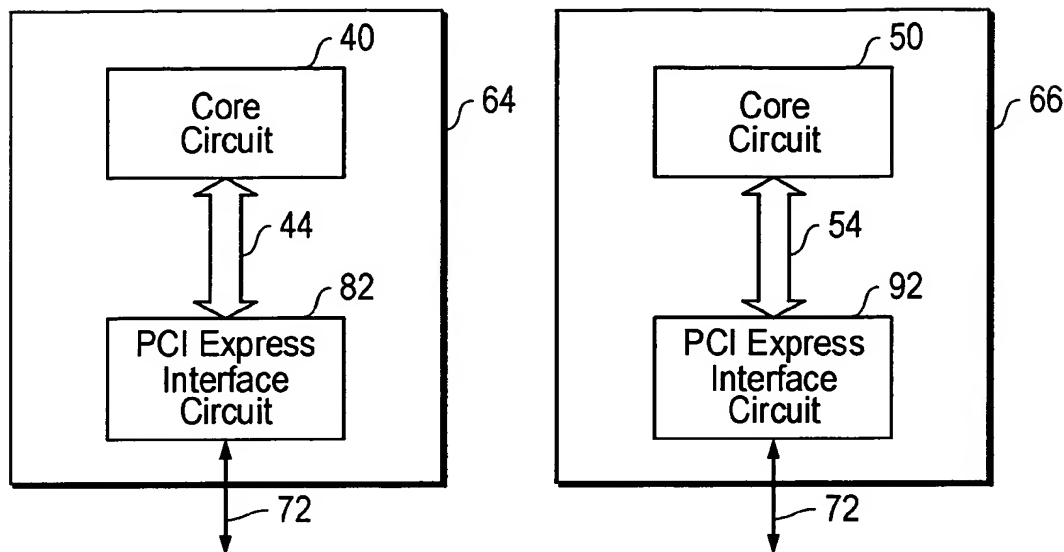


FIG. 5  
(Prior Art)

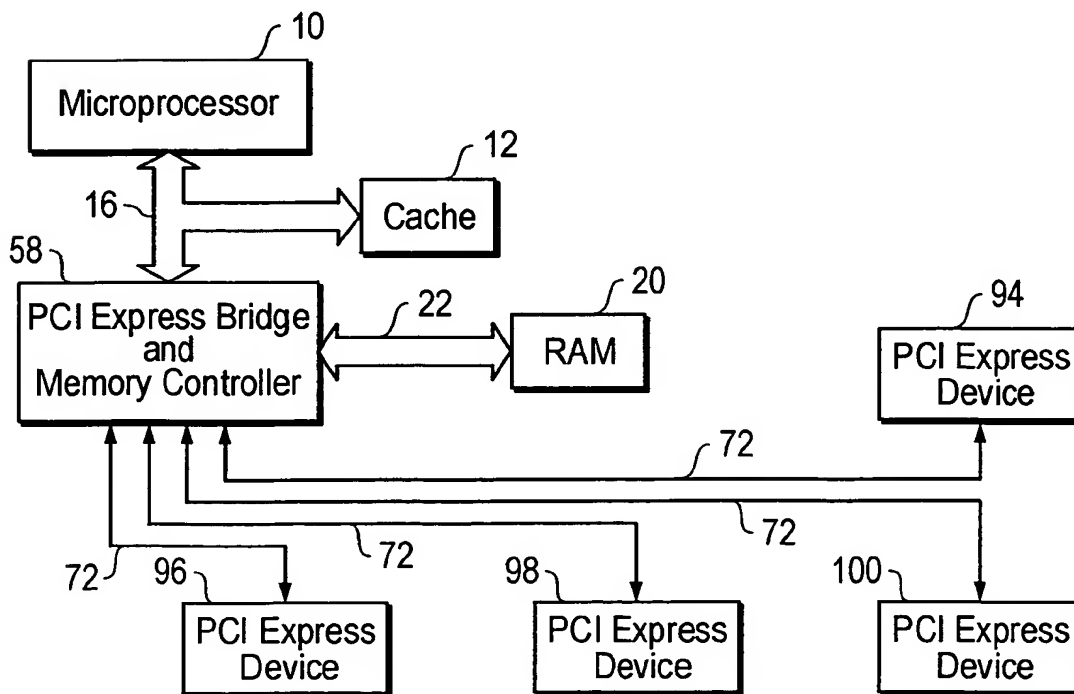


FIG. 6